FREAKS OF MADNESS.

That "no excellent soul is exempt from a mixture of madness," www averred by Aristotle, and modern philcoophers seem disposed to confirm his views. The question that most perplexes the student of psychiatry is just where the mixture marks the border line between the realms of reason and

the domain of lunacy. Notwithstanding that, in point of law, all then are either some or insane, there are many alienists who claim that, in point of fact, there is no dividing line between sunity and insamity. Dr. freland, an eminent Scotch specialist in mental disorders, asserts that, 'as no eye is perfectly achromatic, so no brain is perfectly same." He admits, however, that there are degrees



SCENE IN AN ASYCUM.

states that only one person in about every five hundred is mad enough to require the restraint of an asylum. Each remaining four hundred and ninety-nine he thinks may with safety retain their Mberty so long as their delusions do not conflict with the prevailing sentiments of the times.

"Sanity," says Dr. Ireland, "implies the capability of a man living in such consonance with the society in which his lot is east as not to come into continual collision with its beliefs, rules, customs and modes of life."

With a view of oblining a partial insight into we se of the mothods of determining the prescribed degrees of insarity, an interview was sought with a distinguished physician whose life has been devoted to the care of the unfortunate beings who can neither adapt themselves to circumstances nor shape the events of life to their own ends, and who are consequently denominated in-

"How can you decide to a certainty that the people confided to your care require to be secluded?" was the question propounded.

"It is quite a rare thing for a patient to be brought to an asylum in the earlier stages of the malady," was the response. "Usually confinement is a last resort, and the disease has made such progress as to be unmistakable To an experienced eye the evidences of mental derangements are, however, manifold. One of the most infallible modes of judging of a person's mental condition is from his written declarations. For myself, I can almost in variably classify a patient's disorder by reading one of the letters written by him, without seeing or conversing with him. Insane people are much given to letter writing, and their epistolary productions form a valuable chapter in the history of the cases under our care."

Selecting from a letter file a number of "specimens," the physician passed them over for inspection. They proved so interesting that by dint of urgent solicitation he was persuaded to loan them for publication. He exacted the condition, however, that the identity of the writers should in no way be revealed. To allow it to be remotely suggested would, he deemed, be a most unwarrantable breach of trust.

It was quite evident that years of association with unreasonable and demented greatures had not in the least affected his kind and sympathetic na-

"This letter," explained the doctor, presenting the one of which a fac sluite is given, "was written by a patient who suffered from delusional insanity. Fear and grandeur are pathetteally mingled in its composition. The tendency to underline is a marked feature in insanity as is the conceptration of thoughton self."



se hand me an access when I made my daily round of visits. Here is another in which the defusion of persecution prelominates:"

dreafful sheafer and number such talk of me. There is when my represent comes in I but you so much about. I am not allowed the rate you so much about I am not allowed the full flow of my stand some valued in tool in the time when I am you've a postical "guider and have more kept some and tear particular, and represent the property of th

You insert lot me house from Here is a case of demortion puralytten or general parcais. As a campaign document it will compare favorably with many promulgated by politicians whose mental disturbances are not so mentally classified.

Region Yo Wording ment of the World. No ten or general paresis. As a campaign

Some petunty, to more ection no more Pent-terilaries, no more substine. Every talvering man a lend and his lowest wages to ma Cay.

by this purpose, I donate hypothes Indian as

I shall lead a Nation to Opplence and Wealth, and all I ask from my people in return is to elect me Procedura of the U. S. unnumously, that I may serve my Country, giving them my winner

"The omission of words and letters, with the occasional confusion of ideas, are symptoms of paresis. The following is also the effusion of a paretic."

My Duan Du -God was with me hat alght and bringht me my new Head of Hair as soft relyes. He desires that you take me this ruing, and as early as you can take me, to my wife to tell her that on Saturday you are to marry my Satur, her blother, my Futher and her tire my Satur to Law. I am appointed General in Chief of the shole and you are Surgeon General salary 1,000 dollars a month

The writer of the following epistle had not lost his wit, if his wisdom was threatened. His letter was probably inspired by a "personal," which may, perhaps, have emanated from a brain quite as seriously affected as his own,

My DEAR UNKNOWS-I feel my beach heave in assepantation response to yours, as I shall to the Herald the brief appeal you make to the orbit heartless world. Let me inform you who I am, in order that you may fully accord with

my conspiction feedings.

A young lady of culture and sensitive aspirations, my place of residence will be made known to you in the course of this effusion. I am like to you in the course of this effusion. I am time you, my dear unknown, in many particulars. Like you, I have an aspiring nature I soar, I rise—even to the sarrent where I dwell. Like you too I am malagned. My prefical searings are mistagen for imbeditties. My original opin how are considered those of an ass. But need I inform you that this is a monstrous slander! How can it be otherwise than that, sincein all preferable log feature you care object of my rerespects I so feature you dear object of my re-

You may wonder that I so divine your nature. but know that to the eye of affection, nothing is hidden. Know that to my sharp vision your soul lies bare as an open chart. Let me priefly describe you, beloved creature.

describe you beloved creature.
You are somewhat long and lean, with a face that awakens in the breast no active emotions. It merely suggests to the reflective observer the desire to pect it off with a knife and hide it in a box. But know, my friend, that beauty does not reside in the face alone. It resides in the soul, in the feet, in the back bone. Let us briefly consider each in turn. Your soul, my love, must be large and expansive. It must vearn to pour he large and expansive. It must yearn to pour itself out, and be known of all men. I know that some would cruelly wish you to

pour it all out and have none left to pour. But these are unfigurant, they are ignorant, they cames appreciate the beauty of your back hone. For, my friend, in considering the nature of your back bone. I am forced to the conclusion your back bone. I am forced to the conclusion that you have none. You must be a limp clinging creature a boneless soft caricature of a man; a libel on humanity. But, dear love, lot us not hearken to the foul hiss of caliminy. Let us units our souls; together attuin the diss of perfect harmon. I will sustain and strengthen you. I will suffen your back bone. I will pour into your soul; the wine of love. I will tend you and nurse you like a child. You need it, my friend; you need it. Subject to the same healing influences as myself, nurtured in this poble institution, you will regain your colossal. noble institution, you will regain your colossa understanding. I do not mean your big feet: no, my friend, you have them already. I mean that small quantum of mother wit that left its dwelling empty. Sweet creature, let us pray for your restoration. Let me beg you to join me, and together let us regain our feeble with it - Asylum

(For incuraties only.) [Skened] THERENANIA BIGIDIOT.

(Inmate of same.) In the fac-simile following the chirography as well as the subject matter would locate the disease. The unhappy being felt that God alone could appresiate and sympathize with her troubles.



The letter which follows was written by a patient in a charitable institution and is a typical case of paranoia, which is defined as "a mental affection of hereditary origin, generally of a slowlyadvancing character, with illusions and hallucinations and delusions, often of persecution or of grandeur. Sometimes the two varieties of delusion are combined. The emotional faculties are seldom deeply affected, and the logical power is the last to suffer, the patient reasoning acutely from false premises. The mental enfeeblement is not great. The chronic form of the disease is incurable, and many specialists will not admit of an acute form of paranoia."

To Mee. Hall, Errot Perthehire, Scot-land, care of British Vice Concel or British Consul General, etc. I wrate you a letter hast Sunday about my life

in England. I remembered as I finished it tur-ther particulars. I joined — circus at Read-ing and we made a drauit of the country. We intended traveling around the world only for what happened. I married a young lady at tached to the circus and we were very happy

indeed.
She bore me a sen or so, etc.
Evementher and several times have, since I came to this country, that I sent for you. You were present at performance in Birmiurham or Minichester. I may have wrote about this before. I gave you to pounds. You saw my wife

The unhappy woman never failed to hand me an appeal when I made in the limit of which the defusion of persons there is unstanced in the defusion of persons. I wenter in which the defusion of persons to be the championship of the World against all the flare back fliders in Existence whilst with that circus. My Performance whilst with that circus My Performance whilst with that circus My Performance whilst with that circus in Existence whilst with that circus in Existence whilst with that circus was acknowledged to be Marvelous. However, the proposed in some Public Building Nussum that we wanted about I am not allowed the full the circus was acknowledged to be Marvelous. There are recorded in some Public Building Nussum that we are my wife but we agreed to separate. I broke my engagement with the direct I think

brake my engagement with the drees. I think we arrogated peaceable and quiet. I forget exact particulars. Some pears are I met lier here but like me she had married again. She assured to be very happy, etc.

I saw my son and gave an Exhibition in --Circus. New York City. I rede with my see on flores back. I have seen once or twice since and have had conversation with her, it was too bad we over separated in the first place, perhaps

I refused to ride to any Circus for less than

at mos. Nor me one cise, perhaps we may meet

hereita to be bore I am at a loss, to know why the Hetths Cov as not superfected in our benail. And this purpose, I donate a prince produce and a financial prince of the prince of the plant of with the sec.

I was not been accounted to the purpose of the I am transfer out I was some for the purpose of the I am transfer out I was some for the purpose of the I am transfer out I was some for the brief - Libyd's Newtopaper.

I will come it milliones more for the purpose of transformation to section the entire transformation and transformation to the entire transformation transformation

I was suigned twice and created Earl of Bristol and other titles and for Bristory each and every time. New I am left here to starve attempts all hinds of sirk. Insome and

Dirty Persons.

I pray Goll I may have a happy release one way or other the Queen as treated the very man indeed and may Goll points our for it. She has had the power and refused to Guarantee us my fights I would like you to forward this letter to her in Person Goll Dainn each and every person gully towards me and sales. I will now conclude our run. I will now conclude your son-

Earl of Bristel Eur Eur Eur

Please cable on answer. Augune delaying my letter will be prosecuted and may God punish him textiles.

The wretched object of this imaginary persecution has been happily released

There are probably as many people possessed of happy delusions as there are tormented beings. Charles Lamb in early life had an attack of insanity to which he referred in a letter to Coleridge, saying: "I look back upon it at times with a gloomy kind of envy, for while it lasted I had many, many hours of pure happiness. Dream not of having tasted all the grandeur and wildness of fancy till you have gone mad." GUSTAVE BINET.

COMING HOME IN THE MORNING. The Profound Mystery Which an Old-

Time Rounder Is Unable to Solve. "I'm an old man," he said slowly, and I've lived a long time longer than most men who have lived as long as I have, for there's mighty little in this world that I oughtn't to know that I don't know, but there is one thing I don't know and I've been trying to learn it for fifty years, more or less."

"What's that?" interrogated Gamaliel, who was but yet a beginner.

"Well, my son, it's this: I don't know, and I don't believe I ever shall. why it is that when a man gets home at 3 o'clock in the morning and finds he hasn't his night key in his pocket he can ring the bell and thump the door and throw pubbles up against the windows and disturb the whole neighborhood and keep on doing it for three quarters of an hour or more before he wakes anybody in the house; but if he gets there at 3 in the morning and has his night key in his pocket and slips it into the lock as still as a mouse and turns it without a creak, and creeps upstairs in his sock feet as still as a cat, and gets into his room as noiseless as the stars go to rest, he not only wakes up his wife, but next morning everybody in the house is asking him what he means by coming in at that hour of the night, and if he must come in then. why doesn't he make less racket and not disturb the whole country."

The old man, in an excess of emotion, gasped once or twice and began to mop his brow.

"That's what I don't know, young man," he went on, "and I'd like to live until you have lived just as long as I have, to see if you can find out, but I don't really believe you ever will."

"I'll try," briefly remarked Gamaliel, and those who know Gamaliel have a sublime confidence that he has made a noble beginning.—Detroit Free Press.

WOMEN IN POLITICS.

How Fair English Canvassers Are Received by the English Voters.

Mrs. Stanley is not by any means the only fair canvasser in England who is having a hard time to win the suffrage of the voters for her husband. There is a certain good conservative, Col. whose wife has been making various "friendly" calls among the cottagers of his district. She always expresses her regret that the colonel cannot accompany her on these neighborly calls, but says that he is so pressed with work that he cannot, and that she desires to leave his card. On one of these visits the brawny son of toil to whom the remark was made replied in heavy and unmistakable language that since the call was a merely friendly one, he would be pleased to return it at Broomford manor, the candidate's residence.

But the experience of the colonel's wife was mild in comparison with that of a daughter of a veteran tory in the north. A poor woman in the neighborhood had occasion to ask for a hospital ticket. and being unacquainted with the ways of soliciting she went to the candidate' front door to apply. The maid bade her wait and finally returned, saying that Miss -- would see her at the back door. The young lady was most gracious and bestowed the ticket, but added that one should never come to the front door to beg. A day or two later the charming young lady knocked at a certain cottage, and, with the most winning of smiles, solicited a votfor her father. The woman who came to the door replied: "Well, miss, w never serve beggars at the front door but if you'll go around to the back I'll ask my man to see you."

A Diary Curious and Useful.

A Japanese journal describes a curiou diary kept in a family of a well-to-d farmer in the province of Koshiu, in the center of the main island. It has been kept regularly for more than three hus dred years. The diary has naturally became voluminous. Seven or eigh oblong boxes, two feet wide by five long and two and a half in height, principally used in Japanese house for storing bodding, are said to be fillewith them. Recently a dispute is su'c to have arisen between two families in that neighborhood, each claiming to be the original family or stock. The dipute was settled by referring to Mr. Hazalca, the present head of the family with the diary, who discovered in one of the early volumes an entry made by one of his ancestors of a dinner he attended given by an ancestor of one of the parties to the dispute on the occasion of the latter's founding a branch family. As the entry was so detailed as to lacinde com a minute account of the different dishes served on the occacen it left no room for further wrang log and the parties were quite sat

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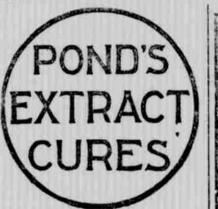
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